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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

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June 11, 2015

Doug Thornton
US Oil Sands (Utah), Inc.
Suite 1600, 521 – 3rd Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3T3
Canada

Subject: Response to Public Comments, US Oil Sands (Utah), Inc., PR Spring Mine, M/047/0090, Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Thornton:

The public comment period for the tentative approval of the PR Spring large mine revision ended on May 18, 2015. The public notice was published in The Salt Lake Tribune in Salt Lake City, Utah; The Vernal Express and The Uintah Basin Standard both in Vernal, Utah; and the Times Independent in Moab, Utah. The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (Division) received a total of four responses to the public notification in support of the project and 893 responses in opposition. The Division will hold an informal hearing on June 30, 2015, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at the Division's office concerning the protests and other negative comments, and US Oil Sands has been notified of this hearing.

The Division received a letter from the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office (PLPCO) with comments in support of the project, but the letter also quoted a statement from the Utah Division of Air Quality (DAQ) indicating that the project may require a state permit, known as an Approval Order from the Executive Secretary of the Air Quality Board if PM10 and/or other emissions exceed five tons per year (including emissions of heavy equipment, stationary engines, etc.). The Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations currently addresses air quality under Section 109.4. The Notice says that US Oil Sands will continue to coordinate with the Environmental Protection Agency on air quality issues and discusses minimizing potential air impacts using best management practices for fugitive dust control and emissions. The Utah DAQ should be consulted in order to determine if an Approval Order would be applicable to the operation.

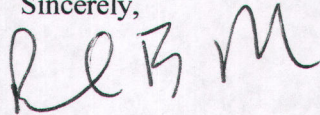
Please examine the letter from PLPCO and make appropriate contacts with the DAQ to determine whether any additional permitting is needed. **No later than July 10, 2015**, please notify the Division whether you have made contact with DAQ and if any further permitting is necessary, either with DAQ or the Division. If an amendment to the Notice is needed, please submit this amendment by July 10, 2015.



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Please contact April Abate at 801-538-5214 or me at 801-538-5261 if you have questions regarding these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P B M', written in a cursive style.

Paul B. Baker
Minerals Program Manager

PBB: aa: eb

Encl: PLPCO Letter

Cc: Jerry Mansfield, SITLA (jmansfield@utah.gov)

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